*Rule against marriage of nurses and midwives.*

6. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any rule prohibiting nurses and midwives from marrying for a prescribed period of their service; and

(*b*) whether there is any similar rule applicable to lady doctors in the service?

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) There is no rule prohibiting midwives from marrying. But nurses trained by the Medical Department are prohibited from marrying for a period of five years excluding the two years under training.

(*b*) No.

**MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): May I know the basis of the rule if any, that nurses trained by the Medical Department should be prohibited from marrying for a period of five years?

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Secretary to Government*): That is one of the conditions on which they are taken for training.

**MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): I want to know whether there is any basis for that condition?

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Secretary to Government*): There may be.

**MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): I wish to know what it is?

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Secretary to Government*): Probably if they get married early, they will have a number of children and they may not be able to do their work satisfactorily.

**MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): If they are married after five years from the commencement of their service, are they not likely to get children? (*laughter*)

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Secretary to Government*): Probably there may be some check after a certain age.

**MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Has any Medical Officer in the Department given that opinion?

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Secretary to Government*): If the Member wants my private opinion I may say that a gentleman of the Medical Department has told me so.

**MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): I am not concerned with the private opinion of the member. I wish to know what is the opinion so far as Government are concerned and whether there is any basis for the rule. Midwives whose work is *probably* much more important are allowed to marry.

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Secretary to Government*): These Nurses have to attend to their work throughout day and night and it may interfere with their work if they are married.

**MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): If a Nurse is trained otherwise than by the Medical Department does not the difficulty arise?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): The prohibition is there and that may apply to them as well.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): But the answer given is not that. Only nurses trained by the Medical Department are prohibited. I wish to know whether that difficulty will not apply to Nurses who have not been trained by the Department?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): It may not.

PRESIDENT: The question was whether there was a rule prohibiting the marriage of Nurses. The answer was that there was no specific rule but there is a prohibition which, as Mr. P. N. Krishna Pillai was trying to explain, was based upon a condition in the agreement. It is not on the general question that an answer was given.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I wish to know whether there is any basis for that condition?

PRESIDENT: That is to say you want to know what the object of that rule is. If Mr. Krishna Pillai is aware of it he may tell you; otherwise he may claim notice.

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): So far as that particular portion of the question is concerned, I claim notice.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I wish to know whether there is any such prohibition so far as the Lady Doctors trained at Government cost are concerned?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): It is in the answer. There is no such prohibition.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is there any special reason for placing this difficulty in the way of these nurses alone?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

*Resident Medical Officer of the General Hospital.*

7. MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) whether the Medical Officer in charge of the X-ray work is now the Resident Medical Officer also; and

(*b*) whether it is the dearth of competent Medical hands in the General Hospital that has necessitated the allotment of two extra items of work to the same person?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.
(*b*) No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know why when there is no dearth of competent Medical hands in the General Hospital, these two extra duties are allotted to the same Doctor?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): When that post fell vacant the other Medical graduates there could not conveniently be appointed to that post.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly